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CLAIMS

1-64. (Cancelled)

65. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for monitoring the operations of an operator of a medical imaging machine that performs a medical function, comprising:

a computer for storing a first series of steps that an operator should perform when using said medical imaging machine to perform said medical function,

said computer also storing a second series of steps that set forth what the operator performed during the use of said medical imaging machine to perform said medical function,

said computer comparing said first series of steps with said second series of steps.

66. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 65, in which said computer [[means]] has an output which sets forth prices computed from the operations performed by the operator of said medical imaging machine.

67. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 65, wherein there are a plurality of medical imaging machines each of which performs a medical function and produces a picture of a body part in which,

said computer [[compares]] comparing at least one step of said first series of steps of each of said medical imaging machines with at least one step of said second series of steps for each of said medical imaging machines.

68. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 65, in which there are plural medical imaging machines and plural computers, including at least one computer for each medical imaging machine so that separate operators of said medical imaging machines can be monitored for separate patients at the same time.

69. (Currently Amended) The method of monitoring the operations of an operator of a medical imaging machine which gathers medical information about a patient, comprising:

providing a computer,
storing in said computer a predetermined series of steps for operating said medical imaging machine to perform a medical function,
entering into said computer the actual series of steps of said operator in operating said medical imaging machine, and
comparing said predetermined series of steps with said actual series of steps of said operator.

70. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim [[65]] 69, in which said computer computes prices useful, for billing purposes, from the operations of said medical imaging machine.

71. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim [[65]] 69, in which there are a plurality of medical imaging machines each of which performs a medical function,

providing a separate operator for each of said medical imaging machines,
with each operator performing a series of steps while operating a machine, and
comparing said predetermined series of steps with the actual series of steps of each operator.

72. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim [[65]] 71, in which said computer provides information on procedures performed on each of said medical imaging machines as well as summaries of the operations of all of said medical imaging machines.

73. (Cancelled)

74. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as defined in claim 65, in which said medical imaging machine is an x-ray machine.

75. (Currently Amended) The method Apparatus as defined in claim 65, in which said medical imaging machine is a radiology imaging machine.

76. (Currently Amended) The method of monitoring the work of an operator of a medical imaging machine, comprising:

providing a medical imaging machine which requires an operator to make a series of steps in order for ~~[[such]]~~ said medical imaging machine to produce desired results a picture of a body part of a patient,

providing a computer ~~[[means]]~~,

storing in said ~~[[memory]]~~ computer data which represents predetermined steps of said operator during the use of said medical imaging machine to ~~perform a medical function~~ produce a picture of a body part of a patient, [[and]]

entering into said computer actual steps ~~[[of]]~~ that said operator ~~[[using]]~~ performed in operating said medical imaging machine to produce a picture of a body part of a patient, and

said computer comparing said actual steps with said predetermine steps.

77. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for monitoring the operations of an operator of a medical imaging machine ~~that performs a medical function to take a picture of a body part of a patient,~~

comprising:

a computer,

said computer including means for storing at least two predetermined steps that an operator should perform when using said medical imaging machine to ~~perform said medical function~~ take a picture of a body part of a patient,

said computer receiving and storing at least two of the actual steps ~~[[of the]]~~
that the operator performed during the use of said medical imaging machine to
~~perform said medical function~~ take a picture of a body part of a patient, and
said computer comparing said at least two predetermined steps with said at
least two actual steps entered into said computer.

78. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as defined in claim 77, in which said
medical imaging machine is an x-ray machine.

79. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 77, in which said
medical imaging machine is ~~an MRI machine~~ a radiology imaging machine.

80. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 77, in which said
medical imaging machine is ~~[[an]]~~ a CT scanner machine.